

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
SECURITY INFORMATION  
INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT

CD NO.

25X1

INTELLOFAX 9

COUNTRY USSR (Vladimir Oblast)

DATE DISTR 14 Feb 1952

SUBJECT Vladimir Tractor Plant

PLACE  
ACQUIREDNO. OF ENCLS  
(LISTED BELOW)

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DATE OF  
INFO.SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO.

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## Location:

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1. The Vladimir Tractor Plant, designated VTZ (Vladimirski Traktorni Zavod imeni Zhdanova), was on the northern outskirts of Vladimir (56°10'N/40°25'E), near the road to Nurov-Polski. The plant had railroad sidings leading to the main railroad line, but the exact location of these sidings was unknown. The sidings probably met the main line to Corki a few hundred meters east of Vladimir railroad station. The plant covered an area estimated to be between 600 x 800 meters and 1,000 x 1,000 meters. \* Late in 1943, these buildings were enlarged in which small parts for tanks were built. Production of tractors began in 1945. The plant had no Soviet machines. Machinery of American and German origin and also British and Italian machines were seen. The plant had motor vehicles of its own and some shunting locomotives. It received its power from Vladimir.

a new power plant was to be erected about 60 km away.

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2. The plant produced tractors of type Universal II, a primitive wheel tractor with a four-cylinder four-cycle engine, fueled with kerosene (kerosin). From 25 of these tractors per day in June 1949, the production rose to 30 to 40 pieces per day before June 1949. In June a record output of 50 pieces a day was reached. This output, although reached only once, was considered a normal output, and a quota of 30 pieces was fixed for the months after June. The production dropped to 10 to 15 pieces per day in July and August, and did not reach 30 pieces per day until later in August and in September.

3. The plant was also working on Universal IV, copy of a US model. These tractors, which had a shape similar to the German Lanz-Bulldog, and four-cylinder, four-cycle gasoline engines, had allegedly been under construction since early 1949. six models only in July 1949. Mass production of this model had not started by October 1949.

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4. The plant's production was shipped by rail at irregular intervals, frequently only once a week. In the summer of 1949, 500 carefully selected tractors were

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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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also sent to the satellites, especially Bulgaria. Outside of electrical equipment supplied by a factory in Vladimir, the tractor plant was supplied only with raw materials.

5. Since late 1948 work was done in three shifts. The work force figures given range between 3,000 and 9,000 for all the three shifts together. The percentage of women was 30 to 40 percent. Including PWs employed in the production, the maximum labor force was reached with 3,000 persons early in the summer of 1949; after the PWs had been withdrawn the total strength dropped again to about 5,000. 25X1

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- |                                 |                               |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| a. Manager of the steel foundry | Simon Devarovski              |
| Engineer                        | Aleksandrov (fmu)             |
| Chief master mechanic           | Mikhailov (fmu)               |
| Master mechanics                | Arhipov and Birolnikov (fnus) |
| b. General manager              | Samrov (fmu)                  |
| Deputy manager                  | Colonel Kulakin (fmu)         |
| Managing engineer               | Solnikov (fmu)                |
| c.                              | Colonel Kerassimov (fmu)      |

7. The plant was frequently inspected by Soviet officers. these officers picked up tank components which, unobserved by the PWs, were made in the forge. The plant, surrounded by a wood fence and barbed wire, had civilian guards. \*\* 25X1

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Comment. This report in the main confirms previous information on the plant. The extraordinary production increase in the summer of 1949 was chiefly due to the putting into operation of the new foundry. The total output for 1949 is assumed to be 13,000 to 15,000 tractors. The construction of a new rubber tired tractor with a 24-HP engine was started in 1949 (the old tractor Universal had 22 HP).

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